

# **COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**

Department of Emergency Management

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#### **Disaster Field Office**

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#### FEMA-1525-DR-VA

Commonwealth Situation Report #7 *Tuesday, June 29*, 2004

# 1. Situation

A system of severe storms began moving through Southwest Virginia on May 24, 2004. Flash flooding occurred on May 24-25 in Tazewell and Russell counties. Tornadoes damaged homes in Lee County on May 28. Flash floods impacted Buchanan County and several other counties in Southwest Virginia over the June 12-15 period.

Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency for Tazewell and Russell counties on May 25 and expanded the declaration to include Lee County on June 3.

On June 2, 2004, Governor Mark R. Warner requested that President Bush issue a major disaster declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties. He requested federal aid through the Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs. President Bush granted a Federal Disaster Declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties on June 15, 2004.

On June 25, 2004, Governor Warner signed the FEMA-Commonwealth Agreement to implement joint recovery programs.

The incident period began on May 24 and ended June 26, 2004.

# 2. Weather for Russell County and Tazewell County

Today: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Light winds. Chance of rain 20 percent.

Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Light winds. Chance of rain 20 percent.

Wednesday: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Light winds. Chance of rain 20 percent.

Wednesday night: Partly cloudy, with a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the evening. Lows in the lower 60s. Light winds. Chance of rain 30 percent.

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Thursday: Mostly sunny in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Light winds. Chance of rain 20 percent. Thursday night: Partly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the lower 60s. Chance of rain 30 percent.

# 3. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives

- □ Notify affected communities of the availability of federal disaster assistance.
- □ Address potential housing and rental resources issues.
- □ Implement Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- □ Manage public expectations through targeted media releases and appropriate contacts with public officials.
- □ Implement Other Needs Assistance (ONA) Program.

# 4. Recovery Activities

#### A. Human Services

- □ Steps are being taken to remove a mobile home from a creek in *Russell County*. *The County is seeking "Right of Entry" from the property owners*.
- □ Discussions are underway to resolve issues regarding the special housing replacement assistance that some applicants could qualify for.

See pages 5 and 6 for statistical information on registrations, activity in the Individuals and Households Program (IHP), Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

#### i. Volunteer Organizations

□ The FEMA VAL is investigating the possibility of using the services of the Mennonites for private bridge repair.

# ii. Disaster Recovery Center

□ The local recovery task forces in Russell and Tazewell counties are assisting as requested and have representatives in the DRC to meet with individuals. *Nine* (9) applicants visited with task force representatives.

# iii. Donations Management

- □ Tazewell and Russell counties are coordinating distribution of donated goods.
- Clinch Valley Community Action (CVCA) is providing disaster relief to all local counties at 1161 Second St. in Richlands, Va. Applicants must be referred by FEMA, American Red Cross or VDEM to be eligible.

# iv. Disaster Unemployment Assistance

□ Effective June 18, 2004, assistance is available for residents of the declared jurisdictions. Residents can call or visit the nearest Virginia Employment Office. As of 6/28/04, no applications have been received for DUA.

#### **B.** Mental Health

□ The Cumberland Mountain Community Service Board is providing mental health assistance for residents of Tazewell and Russell counties. A representative is in the DRC in Richlands.

#### C. Community Relations (CR)

- □ The State Coordinator will request the FCO to add Buchanan County to the Presidential declaration.
- □ Three State/federal CR teams have been deployed in the three declared counties of Lee, Russell & Tazewell distributing flyers for Tele-Registration, the DRC location and the 1 800 FEMA contact information.
- □ Teams are assessing unmet and special needs and researching available rental residential units in their assigned jurisdictions.

# D. Mitigation

- □ The FCO & SCO have approved and signed the Mitigation Strategy for FEMA, DR-1525-VA.
- □ The FCO has submitted a letter to the SCO approving the Administration Plan and Volume 6, Mitigation of the Emergency Operations Plan.
- □ Development of Bluefield Mitigation Success Stories has progressed:
  - Mitigation staff met with the former Deputy Town Manager June 25 for a tour of the town and its mitigation projects.
  - A meeting was held on June 28 between staff of Mitigation and External Affairs to report on the Bluefield visit and outline three success stories that will focus on residential, commercial and municipal acquisition/demolition projects that were funded through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).
- □ The DCR (NFIP) program engineer, David Gunn, arrived June 28 and met with Russell County building official Mickey Rhea to reinforce the NFIP program provisions for manufactured homes in the floodplain and provided Travel Trailer Tips in anticipation of pending temporary housing by FEMA.
- □ NFIP visits will be conducted on June 29 and 30 with building and zoning officials in Tazewell and Lee counties as well as Bluefield and Abingdon.

#### E. Legislative Liaison

□ Appropriate State Senators and Delegates have been notified of the Presidential declaration and the opening of the DRC.

#### F. Hazardous Materials

Regional Hazardous Material Officer is continuing to monitor situations in the area.

#### **G.** Public Affairs

- □ Follow-up Phone calls to radio and television stations regarding Media Tour scheduled for Wednesday, June 30, 2004, at 10:00 a.m.
- □ Continue working with Mitigation on development of "Success Stories" piece.

#### H. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- □ The task forces for Russell and Tazewell counties have representatives in the DRC in Richlands.
- □ The State Coordinator for Local Recovery Task Forces is based at the DRC.

#### I. Miscellaneous Actions:

- □ VDH (Health) and DEQ (Environmental Quality) in Russell and Tazewell counties continue to assist citizens with evaluating drinking water safety.
- □ Tetanus vaccinations remain available from the local health departments.

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# J. State Coordinating Officer

- □ Next Commonwealth sit-rep will be Thursday, July 1, and Tuesdays and Thursdays thereafter.
- □ DFO will be open M-F (8 a.m. 6 p.m.), Saturdays (8 a.m. 1 p.m.). DFO will be closed Sundays. The DFO will be open on Monday, July 5, (Holiday) with minimum staff.
- □ Daily contact with local Emergency Management and other local officials.

Signed, Mary Camp, Dep. SCO

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator /s/ Mary Camp, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

# INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE-DAILY STATUS REPORT FEMA DR-1525VA

**COB: 06-24-2004** 

June 25, 2004

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	693	
		DAILY

DAILY REGISTRATION 35 DESIGNATED COUNTIES 29 617 UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES 6 74

# INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP) OVERVIEW

**CUM** 

Eligibility Rate	81%	Payments Apprv'd \$629,592.75
Registrations Referred	547	Payments Disb'd \$604,723.46
Registrations Approved	364	
Registrations Ineligible	95	
Registrations Withdrawn	10	
Registrations Pending	78	IHP Max Awards 26

# HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA) OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA)

Eligibility Rate	81%	Eligibility Rate	0%
\$ Amount Apvd	\$629,592.75	\$ Amount Apvd	\$0.00
\$ Amount Disbursed	\$604,723.46	\$ Amount Disbursed	\$0.00
Referrals	540	Referrals	205
Approved	364	Approved	0
Ineligible	93	Ineligible	35
Withdrawn	10	Withdrawn	4
Pending HA Categories	73	Pending ONA Categories	163

# INSPECTION SERVICES (IS) SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

Inspections Issued	553	Home App. Issued	293
Returned to FEMA	516	Business App. Issued	45
Outstanding	37	EIDL	0
Inspectors in the Field	2	Total App. Issued	338
Turnaround Time	01.06.26	Approved	0
QC Inspections	34	Pending	34
% Of Inspections Completed	93%	Total \$ Approved	0

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS		OPEN	CLOSED	TODAY	CUMULATIVE
TAZEWELL (RICHLANDS)	FIXED	6/21/2004		22	196
TOTAL				22	196

DESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
LEE (COUNTY)	8	81
RUSSELL (COUNTY)	11	271
TAZEWELL (COUNTY)	10	265
TOTAL	29	617
UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
AUGUSTA (COUNTY)	0	1
BUCHANAN (COUNTY)	4	56
DICKENSON (COUNTY)	0	2
DINWIDDIE (COUNTY)	0	1
HENRY (COUNTY)	0	1
JEFFERSON (COUUNTY)	0	1
PAGE (COUNTY)	0	1
SCOTT (COUNTY)	0	1
SOUTHAMPTON (COUNTY)	1	1
WASHINGTON (COUNTY)	0	4
WISE (COUNTY)	0	2
TOTAL T		
TOTAL	5	71